Passenger traffic between Tirupathi and Hyderabad

1156. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have conducted any survey regarding the heavy passen-ger|pilgrimage traffic between Tirupathi and Hyderabad;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Rayala Seema Express between Hyderabad and Tirupathi is running late regularly;

(c) if so. what action has been taker by the authorities to check the hue running of (he train;

(d) whether there is any proposal *to* speed up the Rayala Seema Express and to increase the number of coaches; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) No, Madam.

(c) However, efforts are being made to improve its punctual running.

(d) No, Madam.

(e) Speeding up of Rayalaseema Express of augmentation of its load is not presently feasible.

Development of Tirupathi Airport

1157. SHRI, TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to develop Tirupathi Airport in Andhra Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, what are the. details thereof; and

(c) if the answer to (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons there for?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI IAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Provision has been made in the draft Seventh Five Year Plan of the National Airports Authority for the following works for development of Tirupathi Airport:—

(i) Extension and Modification of Terminal Building and Car Park;

(ii) Extension and strengthening of runway and associated pavements;

(iii) Augmentation of water and po-wer supply;

(iv) Construction of residential quar-ters;

(v) Construction of approach road.

(c) Does not arise.

New Railway train between Tirupathi and Vijayawada

115®. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propo-e to introduce new express train' bstween Tirupathi and Vijayawada keeping in view of the heavy pilgrim traffic to 'these two places; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) 4 pairs of trains adequately serve the present volume of traffic between Tirupathi and Vijayawada.